

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding an SH2/ SH3- domain-containing adapter protein comprising all or a portion of the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
2. The polynucleotide of claim 1 comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or modifications of SEQ ID NO:1 due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.
3. A polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide of claim 1.
4. An expression vector containing the polynucleotide according to claim 1.
5. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence having (i) all or a portion of SEQ ID NO:1; (ii) a nucleic acid sequence degenerate from SEQ ID NO:1 as a result of genetic code redundancy; (iii) a nucleic acid sequence complementary to the nucleic acid sequence of (i) or (ii); or a nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes under conditions of moderate stringency to the nucleic acid sequence of (i), (ii) or (iii).
6. An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 5.
7. An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of full-length hSLAP-2 and having the nucleic acid sequence of ATCC Accession No. \_\_\_\_\_.
8. A substantially purified SH2/ SH3-domain-containing adapter polypeptide comprising all or a portion of SEQ ID NO:2.
9. The polypeptide of claim 8 comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 80% sequence identity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
10. A fusion protein comprising a first amino acid sequence according to claim 8, attached to a second amino acid sequence derived from a protein other than an SH2/ SH3-domain-containing adapter protein.
11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient.
12. An antibody, or fragment thereof, that binds specifically to the polypeptide of claim 8.
13. A gene delivery vector containing the polynucleotide of claim 5.
14. A method of screening for candidate compounds/antibodies capable of binding to and/or modulating activity of hSLAP-2 SH2/ SH3-domain-containing adapter protein, comprising:

- (a) contacting a test compound/antibody with a polypeptide according to claim 8; and
  - (b) selecting as candidate compounds/antibodies those test compounds/antibodies that bind to and/or modulate activity of the hSLAP-2 protein.
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15. The method according to claim 14, wherein said polypeptide according to claim 8 is expressed in a cell or tissue.
16. The method according to claim 14 wherein said candidate compounds/antibodies are antagonists or inhibitors of hSLAP-2 protein.
- 10 17. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 6.
18. A method for producing an SH2/ SH3-domain-containing adapter polypeptide comprising the steps of:
- (a) culturing the host cell according to claim 17 under conditions suitable for the expression of the polypeptide; and
  - (b) recovering the polypeptide from the host cell culture.
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19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound/antibody identified by the method of claim 14.
20. A method of treating an immune disorder involving hyperactivity of B- or T-lymphocytes in a mammal comprising administration of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19.
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